

In the claims: Please change the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for use by an authentication network element, comprising:
 - a first authentication server and other authentication servers each receiving respective unique realm names;
 - the first authentication server receiving a request for authentication of a terminal;
 - during authentication between the terminal and the first authentication server, the first authentication server transmitting to the terminal a reauthentication identity including the unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server; an authentication network element receiving a request for reauthentication transmitted by the terminal using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name; and
 - the authentication network element determining the unique realm name indicating the authentication server that performed the full authentication by the authentication network element from the reauthentication identity included in the request for reauthentication
 - transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying an authentication server;
 - receiving a request for reauthentication from another terminal, the request for reauthentication including another reauthentication identity including another unique realm name uniquely identifying another authentication server; and

routing the reauthentication request according to the unique realm name included in the request for reauthentication.

2. Cancelled.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Currently amended) An authentication servernetwork element, comprising:

means for performing authentication; and

means for transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server;

means for performing reauthentication of the terminal upon receipt of a request for authentication conveying the reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server; and

means for receiving a request by a terminal for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity, and for determining from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the requestmeans for transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying an authentication server;

means for receiving a request for reauthentication from another terminal, the request for reauthentication including another reauthentication identity including another unique realm name uniquely identifying another authentication server; and

means for routing the reauthentication request according to the unique realm name included in the request for reauthentication.

5. Cancelled.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in an authentication network elementserver, wherein said computer program code includes instructions for+

transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server;

receiving a request by a terminal for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity, and

determining from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the requestperforming a method according to claim 1.

8. Cancelled.

9. Cancelled.

10. (Currently amended) A system, comprising a plurality of terminals, a plurality of authentication servers, and at least one content server, the terminals operative so as to request content from the content server after authentication and occasional reauthentication with one or another of the authentication

servers, wherein at least two of the authentication servers are authentication network elements as in claim 4.

11. Cancelled.

12. Cancelled.

13. (Currently amended) A terminal, comprising:

~~means for requesting reauthentication of a communication session between the terminal and a content server;~~

means for receiving from a first authentication server a reauthentication identity generated during a first authentication, the reauthentication identity including a realm name uniquely indicating the first authentication server including a unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server; and

means for transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name.

14. (Previously presented) The terminal as in claim 13, wherein the means for transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name includes the reauthentication identity in an identity response packet according to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.

15. (Currently amended) An authentication servernetwork element, comprising authentication protocol components a processor configured to:

~~perform authentication;~~

transmit to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the an authentication server;

receive a request for reauthentication from another terminal, the request for reauthentication including another reauthentication identity including another unique realm name uniquely identifying another authentication server; and

route the reauthentication request according to the unique realm name included in the request for reauthentication, perform reauthentication of the terminal upon receipt of a request for authentication conveying the reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server; and

determine from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the request for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity.

16. Cancelled.

17. Cancelled.

18. Cancelled.

19. Cancelled.

20. (Currently amended) A terminal, comprising a processor configured to:

request reauthentication of a communication session between the terminal and a content server;

receive from a first authentication server a reauthentication identity during a first authentication, the

reauthentication identity including a unique realm name assigned |
to the first authentication server; and

transmit to an authentication network element a request for
reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including
the unique realm name.

21. (Previously presented) A terminal as in claim 20, wherein for
transmitting to an authentication network element a request for
reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the
unique realm name, the processor is configured to include the
reauthentication identity in an identity response packet according
to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.

22. Cancelled.

23. Cancelled.

24. (New) An authentication network element as in claim 4,
wherein the authentication network element is an authentication
server.

25. (New) An authentication network element as in claim 4,
wherein the authentication network element is a proxy server.

26. (New) An authentication network element as in claim 4,
wherein the authentication network element is a service access
point for authentication by an authentication server.

27. (New) A method for use by a terminal, comprising:

receiving from a first authentication server a
reauthentication identity generated during a first

authentication, the reauthentication identity including a realm name uniquely indicating the first authentication server; and

transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name.

28. (New) A method as in claim 27, wherein in transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name, the reauthentication identity is included in an identity response packet according to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.

29. (New) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a terminal, wherein said computer program code includes instructions for performing a method according to claim 27.